

tional to the strength of solution. The injections were always made in the neighbourhood of the greater pectoral muscle. Usually, shortly after the injection, the skin around the puncture became red and tender, with a sensation of burning and often of pain; sometimes there was swelling and persistent induration with greenish-yellow discolouration of the skin. In four very obstinate cases of hemorrhage in advanced phthisis, where cavities had already formed, the hemorrhage was checked after from one to three injections; indeed in one case a single injection proved sufficient. Even in those cases where the hemorrhage was not at once checked it at all events became much less copious, and frequently only remained as a painful expectoration of coagula, which ceased after a few more injections. The rapid effects produced by the subcutaneous injection of the ergotin were all the more striking, as, shortly before, much larger doses of this drug had proved inert when administered by the mouth. In some cases where a copious hemorrhage had its origin in a large cavity, of course we could not expect ergotin to work miracles, and still only in a single such case was its use absolutely without effect. One phthisical young man, who had been attacked every morning for a week with violent epistaxis which had been treated unsuccessfully for four days with ice and perchloride of iron, was completely cured after two one-grain injections of ergotin. In scorbutus, where the cause of the hemorrhage is want of tone and a liability to rupture in the walls of the vessels, ergotin is particularly useful, especially when other remedies have been tried and have failed. These results show that this remedy is in general practical and effective. To the practitioner it cannot but be most comforting in dangerous cases to have at hand a remedy at once so certain and so easily applied, especially where sudden and profuse hemorrhage calls for immediate action, and where, as too often happens, great difficulty is met with in administering internal remedies.

17. *Active Agent of Ergot.*—Dr. A. WERNICH has recently made some investigations in regard to the active principle of ergot in the Berlin Institute. He finds that the watery extract is far more powerful than either the alcoholic or the ethereal extract. The watery extract, when purified by alcohol and ether, forms a mucous or slimy mass which cannot be dried. The active agent appears to be of the nature of an acid soluble in alcohol when pure, but insoluble when in combination with bases.—*Lancet*, April 4, 1874.

18. *Importance of Salts in Food.*—FOSTER (*Zeitschrift für Biologie*, vol. ix. p. 297) has made some interesting experiments on dogs and pigeons, which show that animals die when inorganic salts are altogether absent from their food, although the other nutritive constituents may be abundant. In all animals, a condition of muscular weakness and tremor occurred, which is best designated by the term general exhaustion. The weakness of individual groups of muscles in the dog, and especially those of the posterior extremities, from the second week of the experiment onwards, gradually assumed a paralytic character, such as is observed when the function of the spinal cord is weakened. The activity of the cerebrum was also impaired, as was evident from the increasing bluntness of the senses and the apathy of the animal. Later on, symptoms of increased excitability often appeared. Thus, when the author quickly entered the room where one of the pigeons had ventured upon the cross bar of the cage, it fell suddenly upon the floor of the cage, and there remained crouched in the ordinary stupid position with its eyes closed and its head drawn in. Dogs always cowered at once, as if terrified, whenever any quick motion was made towards them even from a distance. On one occasion, one of them had an attack of madness, springing at the keeper and barking, but crouching down, trembling and growling, when it heard his voice. On being taken out it ran straight forward, and knocked its head violently against a wall in its way. There was tonic contraction of the muscles of the jaw and neck. After the animal has been deprived of salts for some time, the juices of the intestinal canal either lose their digestive power or are not secreted in proper quantity, and nutrition is thus interfered with. Death takes place, however, from the alterations in the nervous system, before there has been time

for it to occur from inanition. The quantity of salts necessary to life is smaller than is generally supposed, but the exact amount required is still to be determined.—*London Med. Record*, May 13, 1874.

MEDICAL PATHOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS, AND PRACTICAL MEDICINE.

19. *General Angioleucitis of the Lungs*.—Dr. REYNAUD, Physician to Lariboisière Hospital, describes (*L'Union Médicale*, Nos. 35 and 36, March, 1874) two cases of an affection to which he gives the above name, one observed by himself in his own wards, and the other by his colleague, Dr. Féréol, in his wards.

The study of these two cases leads Dr. R. to the following conclusions:—

1. There exists a lesion of the lungs not hitherto described in our classical treatises, and characterized by a vascular turgescence of all the lymphatic vessels, both superficial and deep-seated.

2. This lesion deserves the name of angioleucitis. Although it has some relation to cancer, particularly to cancer of the stomach, we are not justified in denying that general angioleucitis of the lungs may be developed independently of the existence of any cancerous affection. Probably angioleucitis of the lungs may be simple or specific, at the same time presenting great similarity in an anatomico-pathological point of view.

3. This angioleucitis constitutes a grave complication, and may cause death by the lungs in patients affected with primary lesions of other organs.

20. *Dizziness and its connection with Migraine*.—Dr. T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT states (*Brit. and For. Med.-Chir. Rev.*, April, 1874), "It is most important to be able to assure sufferers from this alarming malady that it is one which is fraught with no more danger to life than a sick headache, for dizziness often comes on in the later life of those who had migraine when younger, comes on, that is, at a time when cerebral symptoms are viewed with growing uneasiness. . . . A distinguished churchman lately complained to me of such a transient vertigo, which would seize him from time to time, not respecting him even when in the pulpit: for a moment he is confused, he makes a strong effort, the giddiness diminishes, and he is safe. Up to middle life he suffered from migraine in the usual form; now he never has it. Compare this with the state of a clergyman whom I once saw, who comes of a highly nervous stock, who had migraine intensely up to middle life and in whom the migraine then gave way to vertigo. He would be seized with irresistible dizziness, which would hurl him off his feet on to the floor, where he would lie for an hour or two dreading removal. The least attempt to raise his head would always bring on an increase of this distressing symptom and a sense of nausea. After a while he would vomit, and all would come right. This case came under my notice about ten years ago, and I understand that the attacks still recur, but in a much less degree. His health is otherwise good.

"I have another patient to whose case the same description would apply. He has been under my occasional care for some years for this kind of vertigo, ending, when severe, in vomiting. Not many weeks ago he was found in the street clinging to a railing, and was brought to my house. There he remained incapable of raising his head until free vomiting occurred, when he obtained his release. This gentleman had suffered greatly from migraine, as a young man, and nearly all his children have been under my care for nervous affections. Now is there any organic connection between the last and the earlier states of another and similar case which I have now under observation. Mr. X—is a nervous man, and for many years had migraine. Then, as he lost the migraine in middle life, he became subject to the vertigo, and had it in a distressing though not in an extreme form. It rarely went on to vomiting, though he was often